

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 08554 301901Z

14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 /018 W

----- 055300

R 301712Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0246

INFO DEA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 8554

AID FOR S/NM; COHEN AND BUCK; ARA/MEX; KEANE; SER/INC WAMPLER;
DEA FOR CUSACK, DEA FOR EIOL, PLASE; SST, SHELDON

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MEX

SUBJECT: VISIT TO MOPS' TEAMS IN CULIACAN, SEPT 23-SEPT. 25, 1975

1. KARL GRODEWALD, RICHARD REHRIG, AND ROBERT ANDERSON, ALL OF SPECTRAL DATA CORP (SDC) ARE IN CULIACAN AS OF SEPT 25. THE FIRST TWO PERSONS WILL REMAIN CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL ON/ABOUT NOV. 15. MR. ANDERSON WILL STAY FOR TWO SEPARATE TWO-WEEK PERIODS; A.4. ROBERT ERB, OF THE SAME COMPANY WILL ARRIVE LATER.

2. INITIAL INSPECTION OF THE VERSAMAT DEVELOPER IN CULIACAN BY MR. GRODWALD LED HIM TO BELIEVE THAT IT MAY HAVE DETERIORATED BADLY. WHEN MR. ANDERSON ARRIVES, HE WILL PERFORM DEFINITIVE TESTS. HOWEVER; KODAK SHOULD BE ASKED IF THERE IS A TROPIC FORMULATION OF THIS DEVELOPER. IF NOT, APPROPRIATE STORAGE CONDITIONS SHOULD BE SPECIFIED.

3. CONDITIONS OF STORED CHEMICALS IN CULIACAN ARE BAD. TEMPERATURES IN THE STOREHOUSE HAVE EXCEEDED ONE HUNDRED DEGREES FAHRENHEIT (100F) FOR MOST DAYS IN JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER. HEAVY RAT INFESTATION IS APPARENT. HIGH HUMIDITIES ARE COMMON. HOWEVER, AS OF NOW, ONLY THE STATE OF THE DEVELOPER SEEMS IN QUESTION.

4. ONLY EIGHT (8) BOTTLES OF VERSAMAT CLEANER AND TWO(2)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 08554 301901Z

PAKCAGES OF VERSAMAT STARTER REMAIN OF THE INITIAL SUPPLY. AP-

PROPRIATE ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES SHOULD BE ORDERED.

5. OF THE TEN NEW TECHNICIANS PROMISED FOR SEPT. 15, SIX WERE IN CULIACAN BY SEPT. 19. THE REMAINING FOUR, CONSISTING OF TWO PHOTO-INTERPRETERS AND TWO PHOTONAVIGATORS, ARE TO ARRIVE ON/ABOUT OCTOBER 1. THE PROBLEM AS EXPLAINED BY CHIEF OF THE GROUP, CESAR QUINONES, IS THE PRESSURE OF WORK IN CENTENAL, WHERE THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE NOW EMPLOYED. THE LACK OF THE TWO PHOTONAVIGATORS HAS SERIOUSLY UPSET THE TRAINING SCHEDULE. ADDITIONALLY, MR. QUINONES STATES THAT THE THEORETICAL TRAINING FOR BOTH NEW AND OLD TEAM MEMBERS, WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY CETENAL ACCORDING TO THE DISCUSSIONS IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR, DID NOT TAKE PLACE. THIS PLACES AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN ON THE SDC PERSONNEL. ADDITIONALLY, MR. QUINONES WAS UNABLE TO SUPPLY A DEFINITE DATE ON WHICH THE CETENAL TECHNICIANS, WHO WERE TO BE TRAINED IN ADVANCED MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES ACCORDING TO THE SAME AGREEMENT, WOULD ARRIVE IN CULIACAN. MR. GRODEWALD WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THEIR TRAINING PERFORMED WHILE HE OVERHAULS THE EQUIPMENT, SINCE MUCH TIME IS REQUIRED FOR DISASSEMBLY OF MAJOR COMPONENTS. THE EVASIVENESS OF MR. QUINONES ON THIS POINT IS A CAUSE FOR CONCERN THAT THESE TECHNICIANS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE. IF THIS IS THE CASE, EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS IN THE U.S. WILL BE THE ONLY RESOURCE FOR REPAIR OF MAJOR BREAKDOWNS.

6. DURING THE THREE DAYS OF TRAINING OBSERVED IN CULIACAN, THE TWELVE (12) MEXICAN TECHNICIANS SHOWED INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM. THEY SEEMED TO BE ON EXCELLENT TERMS WITH MESSRS. GRODEWALD AND REHRIG. THESE GENTLEMEN SEEMED CAREFUL AND CONSCIENTIOUS, USING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE A SEE-AND-DO APPROACH TO INSTRUCTION

7. THE INABILITY OF THE MEXICAN TEAM TO SECURE LOGISTICS SUPPORT IS DISTURBING. A STICKING DOOR IN ONE TRAILER HAS BEEN UNREPAIRED SINCE THE TRAILERS ARRIVED IN MEXICO, AS HAS A LEAKING ROOF VENT. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PURCHASE OF SIMPLE HAND TOOLS AND SPARE BULBS AND SCREWS HAS REVERTED TO U.S. OBSERVERS DUE TO THE INABILITY OR UNWILLINGNESS OF THE MEXICANS TO MAKE LOCAL PURCHASES. A BADLY DESIGNED WATER PUMP INSTALLATION HAS HAD FREQUENT FAILURES BUT HAS BEEN REPAIRED RATHER THAN REPLACED. THE TEMPERATURE OF THE WATER SUPPLY TO THE VERSAMAT HAS EXCEEDED 90 DEGREES F ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 08554 301901Z

SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING THE SUMMER. DURING MY VISIT, IT WAS APPROXIMATELY 88 DEGREES F. NOMINAL TEMPERATURE IS 85 DEGREES F. THE MEXICAN PHOTOTECHNICIAN REQUESTED AN IN-LINE WATER CHILLER. HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM COULD BE SOLVED EASILY IF A ROOF WERE ERECTED OVER THE WATER STORAGE TANK. THIS COULD BE DONE AT MINIMUM EXPENSE.

8. THE PROGRAM OF RESURVEYING SECONDARY ROADS AND UNIMPROVED

ROADS HAS BEEN POSTPONED. NO REASON WAS GIVEN. APPARENTLY THIS POSTPONMENT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE DELAY IN SECURING THE STEREOSCOPE TO BE USED IN THIS PROGRAM. ONLY TWO PHOTOGRAPHIC MISSIONS HAVE BEEN FLOWN SINCE APRIL 15 OF THIS YEAR. BOTH WERE EXTREMELY SHORT TESTS OF MARIJUANR FILTERS. MR. GRODEWALD WAS URGED TO ENCOURAGE THE MEXICAN TEAM TO FLY AS MANY TRAINING MISSIONS AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR PROFICIENCY. ALSO, MR. QUINONES WAS ENCOURAGED TO FLY MISSIONS OVER THE SOUTHERN ZONE FOR FAMILIARIZATION.

9. THE PHOTOPLANE HAS BEEN IN MEXICO CITY FOR REPAIRS OF A HYDRAULICS PROBLEM AND FOR SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE. AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO INSURE THAT THE AIRCRAFT IS RETURNED TO CULIACAN FOR USE IN TRAINING NO LATER THAN OCT. 15, IN ORDER TO BE AVAILABLE.

10. FYI: DURING DEBRIEFING PROVIDED BY DEA/SCHLESINGER PRIOR TO DEPARTURE, IT WAS AGREED THAT MAJOR DEFICIENCIES NOTED DURING HIS TDY WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH DEPUTY AG AND ADMIN CHIEF THIS WEEK.
BRANDIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STORAGE, SITE SURVEYS, CHEMICALS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO08554
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750339-0485
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975091/aaaaaatg.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO MOPS' TEAMS IN CULIACAN, SEPT 23-SEPT. 25, 1975
TAGS: SNAR, MX, US, (GRODEWALD, KARL), (REHRIG, RICHARD), (ANDERSON, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006